

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 106

Introduced by Assembly Member Caballero

January 25, 2010

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 106—Relative to the CDF Firefighter Matt Will Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 106, as introduced, Caballero. CDF Firefighter Matt Will Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate the portion of State Highway Route 156 from State Highway Route 25 to State Highway Route 101 as the CDF Firefighter Matt Will Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, California Department of Forestry and Fire
2 Protection (CDF) Heavy Fire Equipment Operator (HFEO) Fire
3 Captain Matt Will passed away in the line of duty on October 9,
4 2007, at the age of 30, while battling a fire in Monterey County;
5 and
6 WHEREAS, Matt Will is survived by his mother, father, two
7 brothers, loving wife and high school sweetheart Dianna, son
8 Trysten (12), and daughter Elsie (10); and
9 WHEREAS, Matt Will was born in El Cajon, California on
10 March 13, 1977, and was raised in Campo, California. He attended
11 elementary through high school in Campo where he participated

1 in many sports including football, baseball, and wrestling. He
2 enjoyed many outdoor activities, such as camping, fishing, hunting,
3 and off-roading. After graduating from high school, Matt Will
4 helped run his family business where he became proficient at
5 operating heavy equipment; and

6 WHEREAS, HFEO Gary Will, father of Matt Will, is employed
7 by CDF. Matt Will followed in his father's footsteps as he pursued
8 the career of his dreams as a HFEO by applying his passions for
9 heavy equipment and fire fighting. He was always charismatic and
10 caring, and his drive and motivation were displayed daily. Matt
11 Will's leadership skills carried him to reach his goals and to
12 encourage others to reach theirs; and

13 WHEREAS, Matt Will was extremely knowledgeable, with
14 abundant experience and excellent judgment that enabled him to
15 be on the fireline operating alone. On October 8, 2007, HFEO Matt
16 Will tried to get another bulldozer out of a precarious situation,
17 placing Matt Will in a very dangerous location. The ground of the
18 steep terrain gave way causing Matt Will's bulldozer to roll 154
19 feet down a steep drainage, in which Matt Will sustained injuries.
20 On October 9th, Matt Will succumbed to those injuries; and

21 WHEREAS, Matt Will exemplified the professionalism, work
22 ethic, dedication, and self-sacrifice for which CDF firefighters are
23 known. He touched the lives of many and is sorely missed by all
24 who knew him. He will never be forgotten; now, therefore, be it

25 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
26 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes the
27 contributions of CDF Firefighter Matt Will to the people of
28 California and designates the portion of State Highway Route 156
29 from State Highway Route 25 to State Highway Route 101 as the
30 "CDF Firefighter Matt Will Memorial Highway"; and be it further

31 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is requested
32 to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the
33 signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this
34 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
35 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
36 further

1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
2 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
3 author for appropriate distribution.

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